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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE RECEIVED

FEB 27 2001

Application of: MASON et. al.

TECH CENTER 1600/2901

Serial No.: 09/536,552

Group Art Unit: 1635

Filed: March 28, 2000

Examiner: R. Schwartzman

For: IDENTIFICATION OF A NOVEL

Attorney Docket No.: 9926-003

RETROVIRUS ASSOCIATED WITH

PRIMARY SCHLEROSING CHOLANGITIS

AND AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed October 25, 2000, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 of the Rules of Practice, please consider the following remarks and enter the following amendment. Applicants also submit a Petition to Extend Time, accompanied by the appropriate fee.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by adding the following first line:

This application claims the benefit of the carrier ling date of provisional Sale Ref: 00000003 DA#: 161150 application 60/127,347, filed on April 1, 1999, pursuant to A5112.S.C. § 111.96e) and hereby

incorporates said provisional application by reference. --